Appl. No. 10/681,497 Response to OA of 12-01-2009 RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER MAR 2 2 2010

New and Amended Claims

- 16. (Currently Amended) In the method for forming a composite product consisting of a polyolefin material which is 25 to 75 percent by weight of the total composite, a lignocellulosic material, talc, mica, and optionally and at least one of the group consisting of a lubricant, a cross-linking agent, a UV stabilizer, an inhibitor, and a coupling agent such as to increase their resistance to surface visual impairment caused by mold attack, the improvement which consists of incorporating an amount of a cationic salt of boric acid selected from the group of synthetic calcium borate, colemanite, ulexite, or mixtures thereof in the range of from about 2 to 12 percent by weight of said composite product.
- 21 (New) The method according to claim 16 in which said composite product consists of high density polyethylene weighing at least 25 percent of the said composite product, wood weighing at least 40 percent of said composite product, talc weighing at least 5 percent of said composite product, and mica weighing at least 1 percent of said composite product.